# Tools for tasks in blended learning

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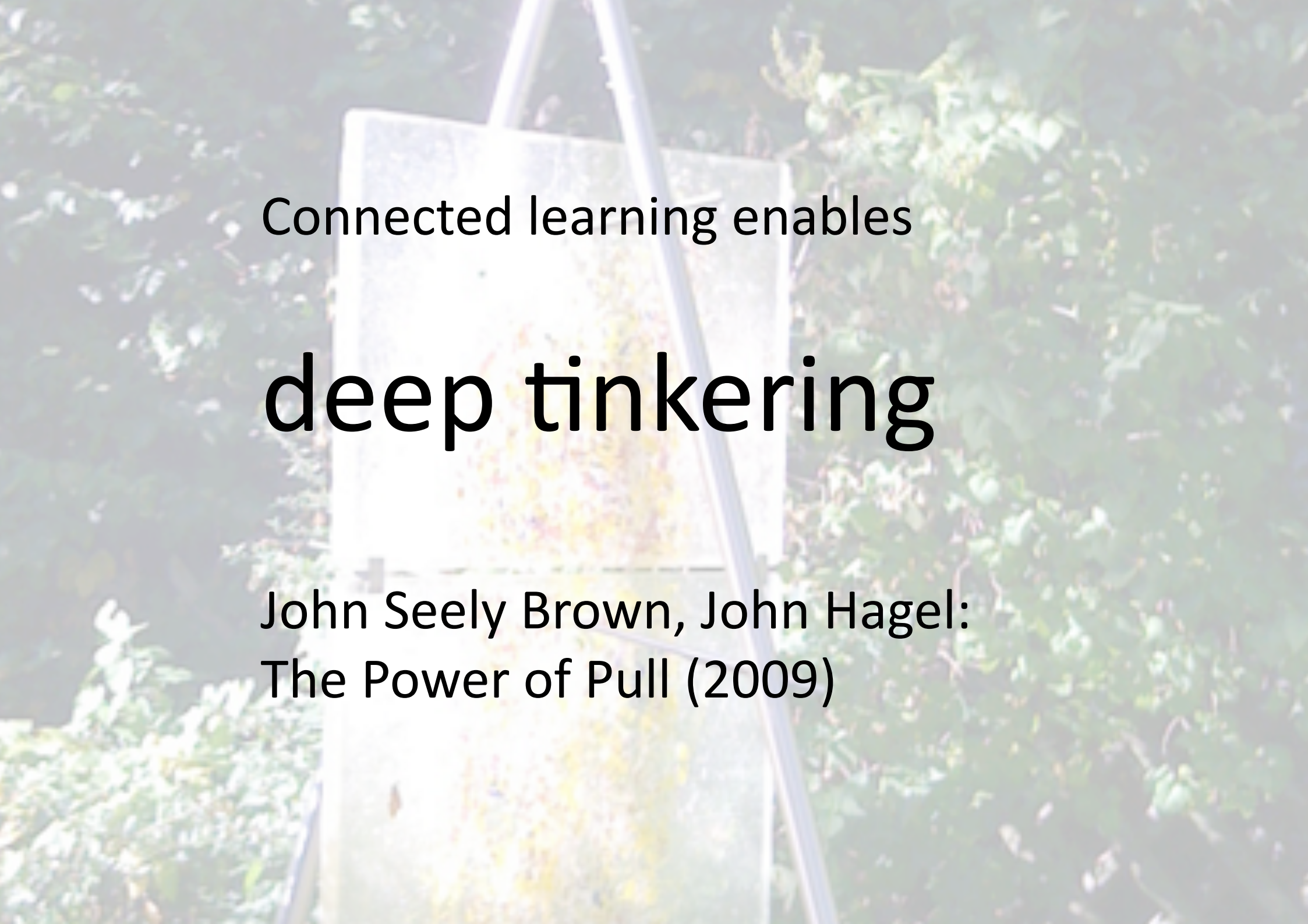
# Learning is social

# Connected learning provides

- information access across networks
- the serendipity of incoming information
- the ability to form lasting, deep relationships based on shared interests and agendas
- opportunities to experiment, the wellspring of learning
- a challenge to traditional roles & structures



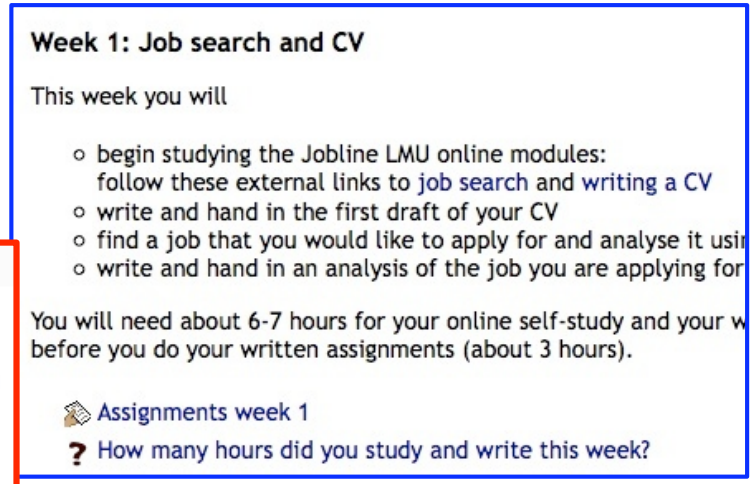
Connected learning enables

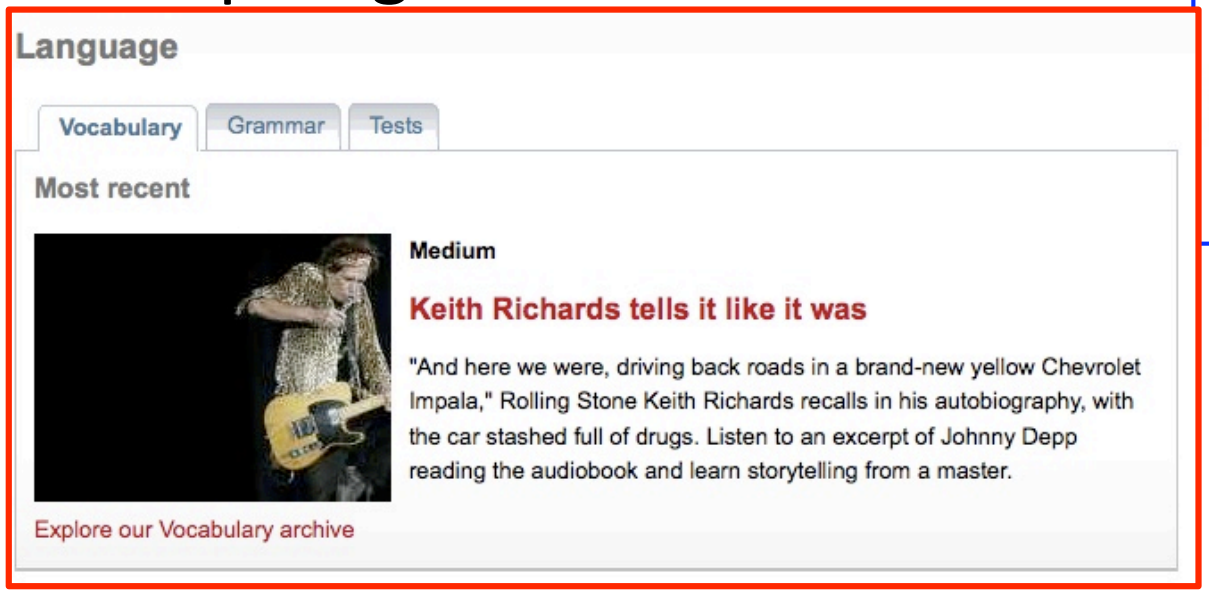
# deep tinkering

John Seely Brown, John Hagel:
The Power of Pull (2009)

# Where I‘ve been

- Moodle for academics
- Spotlight Online




- Nings: company courses & My English Club

T/C-2
ARE YOU
HAPPY?
YES
NO
CHANGE
SOMETHING.
DO YOU WANT
TO BE HAPPY?
YES
NO
KEEP DOING
WHATEVER
YOU'RE DOING.
PRESENTED BY H/34 IN ASSOCIATION WITH MEIKLEJOHN LABS
AN FFIHOB COLLABORATION FEATURED EXCLUSIVELY ON TYPCUT

# Online task culture

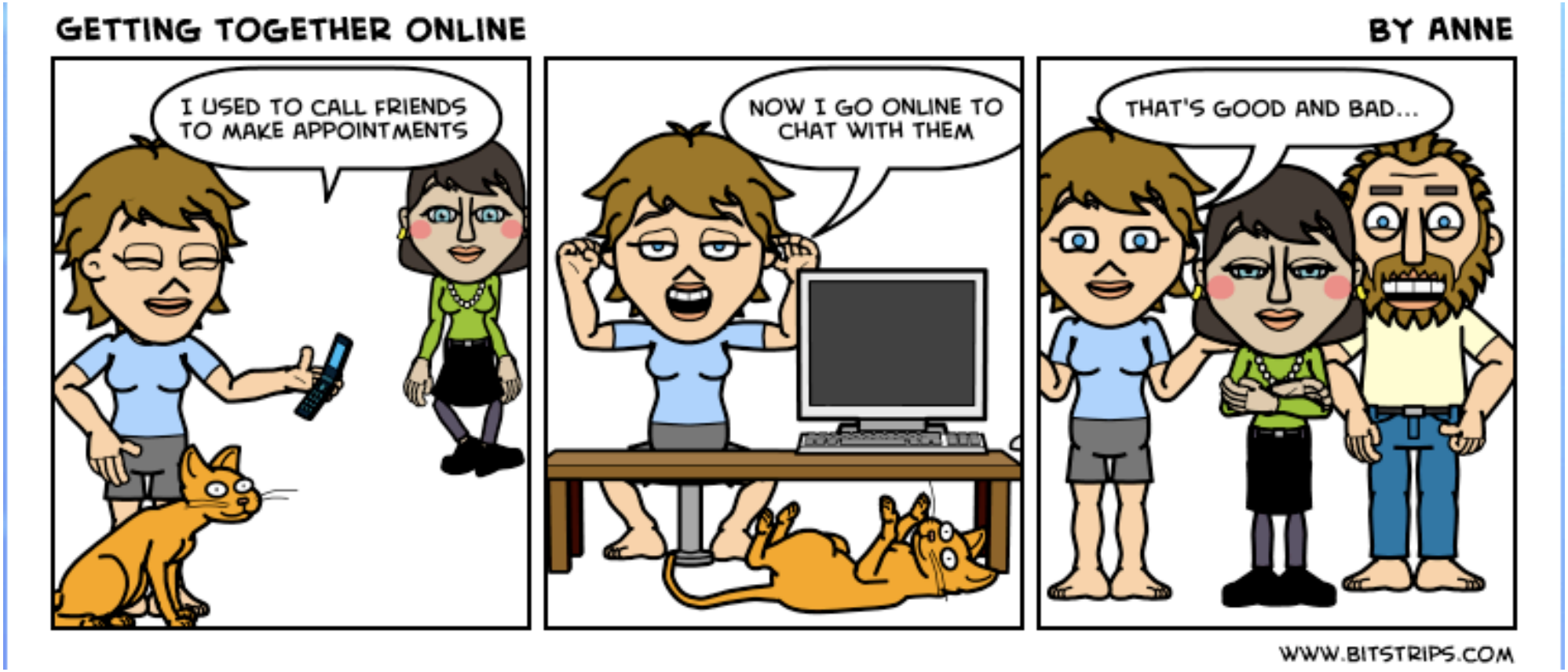
- Gear exercise to follow-up exercise
- Promote group responsibilities
- Clarify feedback procedures
- Promote performance through peer pressure and the act of performing before an audience
- Make connection to face to face course clear
- Connect tasks to learner's real environment

# Tools for writing

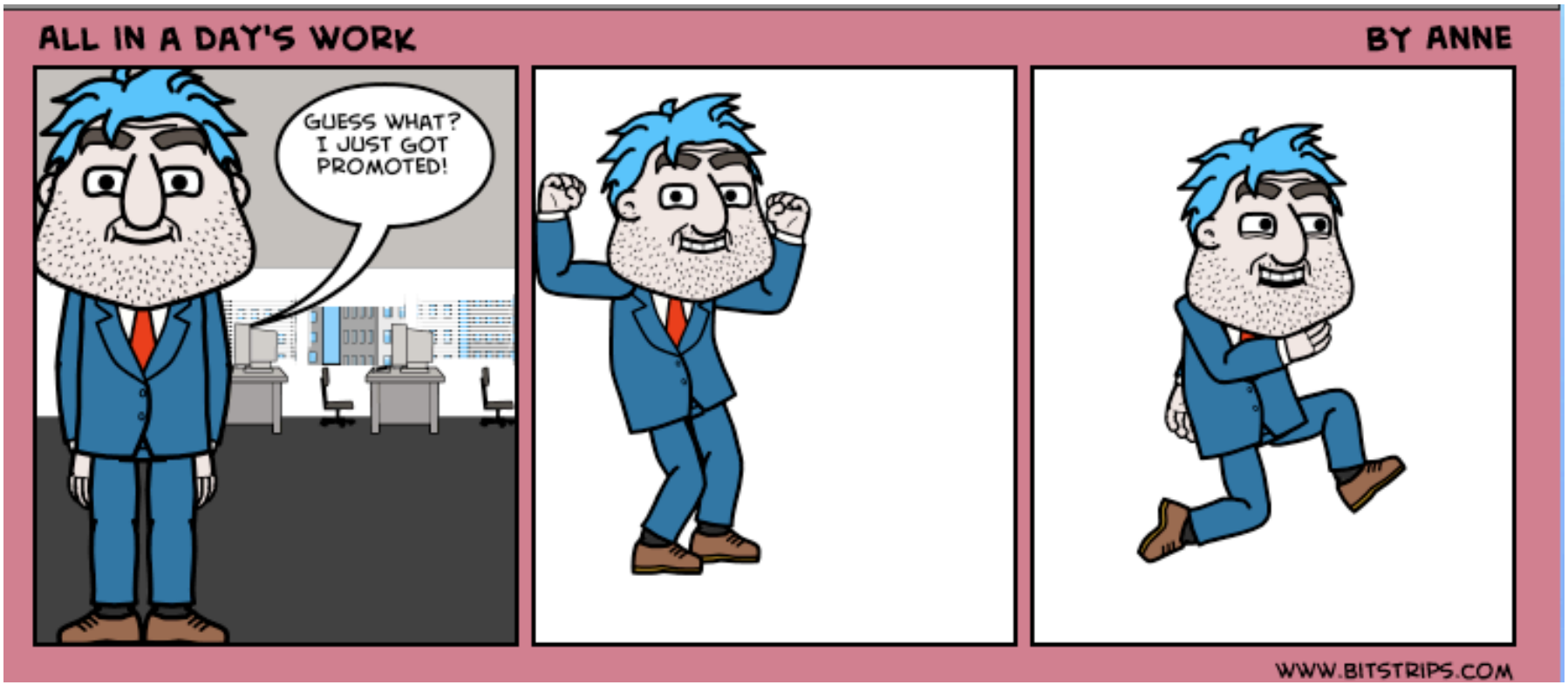
- Reflective: blog (Blogger, Posterous)
- Communicative: chat, forum, blog comments, social networking (Ning, Twitter, Facebook)
- Explorative: forum/ case studies, expanding/reducing; wikis; chatbots (e.g. ESLfast); concordancers (e.g. Collins)
- Using and creating picture prompts (Tuxpi)
- Slideshow: storytelling (Animoto)
- Quotes as prompts (iWise)
- Peer created quizzes; quizzes for revision (ProProfs)

# More tools for writing

Bitstrips



# Create a comic strip



# Xtranormal: text to speech cartoon

# Tools for reading

- Blogroll/ links on social network, Google Reader, RSS feeds
- social networking to discuss reading
- Tag clouds for prediction/ revision/ reconstruction/ comparison (Wordle, Tagxedo)
- Visual thesaurus Vocabgrabber
- Cue prompter (reading for gist/speed)

# Tools for listening

- podcasts, comprehension questions (news or e.g. Manager Tools, Business Spotlight
- create gapfills (keep it simple: just docs! Also possible : quiz apps like Quizlet or Hot Potatoes)
- dictation practice (e.g. Business Spotlight, LEO Network, English Club etc.)

# Tools for speaking

- visualisation software, mindmaps, stickies
- voice recording (GarageBand or Audacity, iTunes)
- Video (iTunes)
- text to voice (iSpeech, Voki)
- Skype
- Pecha Kucha presentation

# Reading up

- Nik Peachey (tools) & Russell Stannard (teacher training videos) and many more!
- E-Moderation Station by Nicky Hockly (The Consultants-e)
- Task suites: Sean Banville's Breaking News English, Sue Lyons Jones's Esol courses and many more!
- My "community" tech blog Ask Auntie Web

# *Get tinkering!*

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